

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 121050Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6958

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDPAEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

/AMCONSUL MUNICH 1481

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, US

SUBJECT: FIRST ROMANIAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON "DETENTE"

1. AFTER WEEK'S UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE, FIRST ROMANIAN PRESS

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COMMENT ON "DETENTE" LEXICOGRAPHY IN LUMEA MARCH 11 GINGERLY

ADVERTED TO CONTROVERSY ABROAD WITHOUT IDENTIFYING PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY, RESTATED GOR SUPPORT FOR CONCEPT, AND SOUGHT TO CONVEY THAT DETENTE PROCESS WILL CONTINUE HOWEVER LABELED.

2. NAMING NO NAMES, LUMEA EXPLAINED THAT "INTERNAL POLITICAL EVENTS" WERE BEHIND "DECLARATIONS BY CERTAIN PERSONAGES IN U.S." WHICH PROMPTED "A SERIES OF OFFICIAL CLARIFICATIONS" THAT U.S. WAS NOT MODIFYING "ITS INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF COLLABORATION". NY TIMES AND WILLY BRANDT ALSO QUOTED IN FAVOR OF DETENTE; "NUMBER OF COMMENTARIES" SAID TO CONFIRM THAT U.S.'S WORLD POSITION REMAINS INSEPARABLE FROM ITS "DEMONSTRATED WILL" TO "COOPERATE PEACEFULLY".

3. LUMEA CRITICIZED OPTIC OF "CERTAIN POLITICIANS" SAID TO VIEW DETENTE AS RESTRICTED MERELY TO REDUCING DANGER OF WAR BETWEEN BLOCS THEREBY IGNORING OTHER COUNTRIES' INTERESTS (SLAP AT BIG-POWER DEALING OVER HEADS OF SUCH AS ROMANIA). ALSO HIT WAS "ODD ANGLE" OF DISCUSSING DETENTE IN TERMS OF WINNERS AND LOSERS WHEN ALL IN FACT BENEFITED. DETENTE DEFINED AS REFLECTING "REALITIES OF WORLD DIVIDED INTO SOCIALIST, DEVELOPING AND NON-ALIGNED, AND DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES" WHERE DETENTE AND COOPERATION AMONG ALL, TODAY'S "PRIME CHARACTERISTIC", MUST FOLLOW PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE.

4. COMMENT: MEDIA'S HESITATION IN RESPONDING, LACK OF SCINTEIA COVERAGE SO FAR, AND LUMEA'S GINGERLY TREATMENT BETOKEN GOR'S CARE TO DIMINISH SIGNIFICANCE OF EPISODE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY REASSERT INDIVIDUALISTIC ROMANIAN SLANT ON DETENTE WITH MINIMUM OF OVERT POLEMICS, AS WELL AS RELUCTANCE TO TAKE ON US ON SO COMPLICATED AND IMPORTANT AN ISSUE.
BARNES

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